



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - October 25, 2001**

- ***In the West***, showers are boosting topsoil moisture for winter wheat establishment across the ***interior Northwest***, primarily in ***eastern Washington***. Elsewhere ***west of the Rockies***, warm, dry weather continues to promote fieldwork, including ***California's*** cotton harvesting and winter wheat planting.
- ***On the Plains***, cold, breezy weather and snow showers continue to stress livestock, hamper travel, and disrupt fieldwork in the ***Red River Valley***. Elsewhere in the region, cool, dry weather is slowing winter wheat development. In addition, soil moisture shortages persist on the ***northern and southern High Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cold weather and snow showers are overspreading ***northern portions of the region***. Wet fields continue to hamper corn and soybean harvesting, especially across the ***eastern Corn Belt***. In addition, Wednesday's severe thunderstorms resulted in widespread wind gusts of 50 to 70 m.p.h. from ***Michigan southward to the Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys***, causing some lodging of unharvested corn.
- ***In the South***, mild, dry weather favors fieldwork, including cotton, soybean, and peanut harvesting and winter wheat planting. Soil moisture is adequate to surplus ***west of the Appalachians***, but dryness continues to intensify from the ***Mid-Atlantic region southward into Georgia***.

**Outlook:** Snow showers are forecast to linger across the ***Great Lakes region*** through week's end, while beneficial precipitation will continue in the ***Northwest***. Mostly dry weather will prevail elsewhere, accompanied by cool conditions across the ***eastern half of the U.S.*** and above-normal temperatures from the ***High Plains westward***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for October 30 - November 3 calls for a late-season warm spell to expand from the ***Plains to the East Coast***, while cool weather will overspread the ***West Coast States***. Near- to below-normal precipitation is forecast nationwide, except in the ***Northwest***, where a favorably wet weather pattern will prevail.

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